

Tone/Attitude Words: Tone refers to the author's attitude towards the subject of the writing.

Tone can also refer to a character's attitude towards another character.

1. accusatory—*charging of wrong doing*
2. allusive—*characterized by indirect references; hard to grasp*
3. angry
4. apathetic—*indifferent due to lack of energy or concern*
5. apologetic
6. audacious—*brave and shocking*
7. awe-solemn wonder
8. benevolent—*kind and generous*
9. bitter—*exhibiting strong animosity as a result of pain or grief*
10. bored
11. callous—*unfeeling, insensitive to feelings of others*
12. candid—*directly truthful; honest*
13. caustic—*intense use of sarcasm; stinging, biting*
14. childish
15. choleric—*hot-tempered, easily angered*
16. cold
17. complimentary
18. condescension; condescending—*a feeling of superiority*
19. confused
20. contemplative—*studying, thinking, reflecting on an issue*
21. contemptuous—*showing or feeling that something is worthless or lacks respect*
22. conventional—*lacking spontaneity, originality, and individuality*
23. critical—*finding fault*
24. cynical—*questions the basic sincerity and goodness of people*
25. derisive—*ridiculing, mocking*
26. detached—*not reacting to or becoming involved in something in an emotional way; reserved*
27. didactic—*author attempts to educate or instruct the reader*
28. disdainful—*scornful*
29. dramatic
30. dreamy
31. earnest—*intense, a sincere state of mind*
32. erudite—*learned, polished, scholarly*
33. fanciful—*using the imagination*
34. fearful
35. forthright—*directly frank without hesitation*
36. frivolous—*not serious or sensible*
37. giddy—*feeling silly, happy and excited*
38. gloomy—*darkness, sadness, rejection*
39. happy
40. haughty—*proud and vain to the point of arrogance*
41. hollow—*feelings or words that are hollow are not sincere or important; empty*
42. horrific—*very bad and shocking*
43. humorous
44. indignant—*marked by anger aroused by injustice*
45. intimate—*very familiar*
46. irreverent—*showing a lack of respect for organizations, customs, beliefs, etc.*
47. joking
48. jovial—*happy*
49. joyful
50. judgmental—*authoritative and often having critical opinions*
51. lyrical—*expressing a poet's inner feelings; emotional; full of images; song-like*
52. malicious—*purposely hurtful*
53. matter-of-fact—*accepting of conditions; not fanciful or emotional*
54. mocking—*treating with contempt or ridicule*
55. morose—*gloomy, sullen, surly, despondent*
56. nostalgic—*feeling or expressing a slight sadness or longing when remembering happy events from the past*
57. objective—*an unbiased view—able to leave personal judgments aside*
58. obsequious—*polite and obedient in order to gain something*
59. optimistic—*hopeful, cheerful*
60. patronizing—*air of condescension*
61. peaceful
62. pessimistic—*seeing the worst side of things; no hope*
63. pitiful

64. poignant—*making you have strong feelings of sadness or pity*
65. provocative—*intended to make people angry or to cause a lot of discussion*
66. quizzical—*odd, eccentric, amusing*
67. reflective—*illustrating innermost thoughts and emotions*
68. restrained—*calm; controlled; does not show the stronger emotions you feel; holding back feelings*
69. reverent—*treating a subject with honor and respect*
70. ribald—*offensive in speech or gesture*
71. ridiculing—*slightly contemptuous banter; making fun of*
72. sad
73. sanguineous—*optimistic, cheerful*
74. sarcastic—*sneering, caustic*
75. sardonic—*scornfully and bitterly sarcastic*
76. satiric—*ridiculing to show weakness in order to make a point, teach*
77. seductive—*very interesting or attractive; alluringly persuasive*
78. sentimental—*relating to or easily affected by emotions such as love, sympathy, sadness, etc.*
79. sharp
80. shocking
81. silly
82. sincere—*without deceit or pretense; genuine*
83. solemn—*deeply earnest, tending toward sad reflection*
84. somber—*sad and serious; dark and without any brightness*
85. sweet
86. sympathetic—*willing to listen to someone's problem, or able to understand someone's problem*
87. tired
88. upset
89. urgent—*very important and needing to be dealt with immediately*
90. vexed—*annoyed or worried*
91. vibrant—*exciting and full of activity and energy*
92. whimsical—*odd, strange, fantastic; fun*

93. zealous—*extremely interested in and excited about something that you believe in very strongly*

Positive Mood Words

Light-hearted
 Playful
 Tender
 Enlightened
 Optimistic
 Liberating
 Warm
 Hopeful
 Nostalgic
 Peaceful
 Welcoming
 Harmonious
 Trustful
 Vivacious- lively/energetic
 Confident
 Idyllic
 Sympathetic
 Joyous
 Dignified
 Ecstatic
 Empowered
 Inclusive

Negative Mood Words

Tense/Anxious	Vengeful
Gloomy	Heartbroken
Violent	Lonely
Insidious	
Pessimistic	
Confining	
Cold	
Hopeless	
Haunting	
Nightmarish	
Hostile	
Suspenseful	
Foreboding	
Painful	
Threatening	
Desolate	
Merciless	
Terrifying	
Barren	